

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) An image projection apparatus comprising a projector, a frame, a light source and an at least partially transparent screen:

the frame being arranged to retain the screen under tension at a plurality of positions along at least one edge of said screen, such that the screen is inclined at an angle with respect to a plane of emission of light from the projector;

the light source arranged to illuminate at least part of the apparatus, the light source being optionally located to the rear of the screen, along a top edge of the frame and/or along either side of a stage;

the screen having a front surface arranged such that light emitted from the projector is reflected therefrom; and

the projector being arranged to project an image such that light forming the image impinges upon the screen such that a virtual image is created from light reflected from the screen, the virtual image appearing to be located behind the screen.

2. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the screen is a foil and/or the screen is inclined at approximately 45.degree. to the plane of emission of light from the projector.

3-4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the screen comprises upper and lower edges and the screen is attached to the frame at the screen's upper and/or lower edges.

6. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the frame comprises first and second retention members each arranged to sandwich an edge region of the screen therebetween.

7. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 6 wherein at least one of the first and second retention members comprises an abrasive coating arranged to contact the screen.

8. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 6 wherein the first and second retention members comprise respective openings therethrough arranged to collocate with respective openings in the screen and at least one of the first and second retention members are each attached to tensioning straps.

9. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 8 wherein the openings are arranged to receive a fixing means so as to clamp the screen between the first and second retention members.

10. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 8 wherein the tensioning straps are attached to a truss arrangement or a fixed mounting point located in a permanent structure such as a wall, floor or ceiling and are adjustable such that the tension of the screen within the truss arrangement can be varied about the periphery of the screen.

11. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 10 wherein the retention members are substantially parallel to truss members comprising the truss arrangement.

12. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1 which comprises a pigmented reflective member in an optical pathway between a lens of the projector and the screen.

13. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 12 which comprises an adjustably angled, mirrored surface in an optical pathway between the lens of the projector and the pigmented reflective member.

14-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 12 wherein the pigmented reflective member is inclined at an angle with respect to the plane of emission of light from the projector.

17. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 12 wherein the pigmented reflective member comprises a plurality of sections each of which has an independently variable angle of inclination with respect to the axis perpendicular to the plane of emission of light from the projector.

18. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 16 wherein the angle of inclination of the member with respect to the plane of emission of light from the projector is variable.

19-24. (canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1 which comprises at least one non-emitting element in response to control from a processor, said non-emitting element

optionally forming a mask arranged to produce an area upon the screen upon which the image is not projected..

26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously presented) A method of providing a frame and screen for an image projection apparatus having a projector, a frame, a light source and an at least partially transparent screen, the frame being arranged to retain the screen under tension at a plurality of positions along at least one edge of said screen, such that the screen is inclined at an angle with respect to a plane of emission of light from the projector; the light source arranged to illuminate at least part of the apparatus; the screen having a front surface arranged such that light emitted from the projector is reflected therefrom; and the projector being arranged to project an image such that light forming the image impinges upon the screen such that a virtual image is created from light reflected from the screen, the virtual image appearing to be located behind the screen; comprising the steps of:

- (i) resting a frame upon a number of elevation means;
- (ii) attaching leg sections to the frame;
- (iii) increasing the height of the elevation means;
- (iv) adding further leg sections;
- (v) attaching a lower edge of a screen to a first retention member on a lower rear piece of the frame;
- (vi) raising an upper edge of the screen to adjacent an upper front section of the frame; and
- (vii) attaching the upper edge of the screen to a second retention member on the upper front section of the frame.

28-33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27 wherein the frame comprises first and second retention members each arranged to sandwich an edge region of the screen therebetween; and the openings are arranged to receive a fixing means so as to clamp the screen between the first and second retention members; further comprising securing the screen in position using respective fixing means passing through either or both of the respective retention members, and the screen, and respective locking means arranged to lock the respective fixing means in position.

35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34 comprising attaching tensioning means to either, or both, of the respective retention members.

36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 35 comprising attaching the tensioning means adjacent at least some of the respective fixing means; and/or attaching the tensioning means associated with the retention member attached to the lower edge of the screen to a lower rear piece of the frame in step (vi); and/or attaching the tensioning means associated with the retention member attached to the upper edge of the screen to an upper front piece of the frame in step (viii); and/or providing the tensioning members in the form of ratchet straps; and/or tensioning each of the tensioning means such that the screen is flat and substantially wrinkle free.

37-42. (Canceled)

43. (Previously presented) A frame and screen constructed by the steps of:

- (i) resting a frame upon a number of elevation means;
- (ii) attaching leg sections to the frame;
- (iii) increasing the height of the elevation means;

- (iv) adding further leg sections;
- (vi) attaching a lower edge of a screen to a first retention member on a lower rear piece of the frame;
- (vii) raising an upper edge of the screen to adjacent an upper front section of the frame; and
- (viii) attaching the upper edge of the screen to a second retention member on the upper front section of the frame.

44. (New) A projection apparatus, comprising:

a frame;

a screen;

connecting means for connecting the screen to the frame;

tensioning means for varying tension on the screen so that the screen is substantially flat and wrinkle free; and

a projector and a reflective member positioned so that light emitted by the projector is reflected by the reflective member onto the screen and then partially reflected by the screen, thereby forming a virtual image behind the screen.

45. (New) The apparatus of claim 44, wherein:

the tensioning means applies tension evenly around a periphery of the screen; and

the frame includes a box frame formed from trusses.

46. (New) The apparatus of claim 44, wherein:

the screen includes polymeric foil having a partially reflective coating; and

the reflective member reduces milky hue appearing on the screen caused by light emitted by the projector.

47. (New) The apparatus of claim 44, wherein:

the reflective member includes a pigmented reflective board; and

the reflective member can be raised and lowered.

48. (New) The apparatus of claim 44, wherein:

the reflective member includes a plurality of individual sections that can be individually raised and lowered;

the reflective member includes a non-reflective mask; and

the non-reflective mask can be varied in size and shape.

49. (New) The apparatus of claim 44, further comprising:

a computer-controlled hydraulic ramp that can be used to raise and lower the reflective member; and

a light source positioned relative to the screen so that the light source can be used to illuminate a prop used with the apparatus.

50. (New) A projection apparatus, comprising:

a frame;

a screen connected to the frame using a variable tensioning arrangement; and

a projector positioned relative to the screen so that light emitted by the projector strikes and is partially reflected by the screen, the partially reflected light forming a virtual image that appears to be located behind the screen.

51. (New) The apparatus of claim 50, wherein:

the variable tensioning arrangement can be adjusted so that even tension is applied to the screen; and

the variable tensioning arrangement includes a plurality of tensioning straps connected to the frame that can be individually tightened and loosened using a plurality of buckle arrangements.

52. (New) The apparatus of claim 50, wherein:

the variable tensioning arrangement includes a plurality of clamp jaws connected to the plurality of tensioning straps and edges of the screen;

the plurality of buckle arrangements includes a plurality of friction locking buckle arrangements; and

each of the plurality of clamp jaws has a face coated with an abrasive.

53. (New) The apparatus of claim 50, wherein:

the screen includes a liquid crystal display screen or a television screen; and

the screen includes individual sections that can be individually raised and lowered.

54. (New) The apparatus of claim 50, further comprising a computer connected to the projection screen and operable to black out a portion of the projection screen to form a mask.